

## U.S. Attorney's Office Western District of Texas

## Johnny Sutton, U.S. Attorney

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## MIDLAND WOMAN ADMITS TO FORGING BANKRUPTCY JUDGE'S SIGNATURE ON LOAN DOCUMENTS

**U.S. Attorney Johnny Sutton** announced today that 43-year-old Kathryn Beekman Lowry of Midland, Texas, pleading guilty to four counts of forging the signature of a federal judge and an officer of the Court.

Appearing before United States Magistrate Judge L. Stuart Platt in Midland this morning, Lowry admitted that in March 2006, she and her husband were in bankruptcy in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Texas. Despite being in bankruptcy, Lowry attempted to secure a loan for the purchase of a house in Midland. Lowry admitted that she created and submitted fraudulent bankruptcy discharge documents to loan providers to discredit credit reports. Three of the documents contained the forged signature of United States Bankruptcy Judge Ronald B. King; the fourth, the forged signature of Tony Ferrer, an employee of U.S. Chapter 13 Trustee Daniel R. O'Connell.

As a result, Lowry faces up to five years in federal prison and a maximum \$250,000 fine per count.

This case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Assistant United States Attorney John Klassen is prosecuting this case on behalf of the government.

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